GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4737
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2001
INQUIRY INTO ALLEGATIONS OF CORRUPTION IN DEFENCE
ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have constituted a Joint Secretary level one-man Committee to probe into the allegations of corruption in Defence deals as reported in the Indian Express dated March 24, 2001 captioned `for Army, MOD Probe a Sham`;

(b) if so, whether this Committee is capable to probe the allegations against its seniors; and

(c) if not, the justification behind constituting the said Committee?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) to (c): A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4737 18.4.2001

Government has constituted a one man Fact Finding Enquiry Committee under the Chairmanship of the Joint Secretary(E/PG) & Chief Vigilance Officer to conduct a fact finding enquiry into allegations of influencing procurement of Defence equipment/stores, made against civilian officials of MOD by Tehelka.Com in the video tapes exhibited on 13th March, 2001.The terms of reference of the Committee are to inquire whether the transactions pertaining to the procurement of Defence equipment/stores referred in the said video tapes have been carried out in terms of prescribed procedure, and also includes incorporation of appropriate modification in the procurement procedure and in the conduct of officials dealing with such activity.

2. As Chief Vigilance Officer, the officer is competent to investigate into the allegations made against any Officer of the Ministry.